



# PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER - OCT. 2020

Sharon Elementary School :: *Care. Community. Connect.*

## Important Upcoming Dates

- Oct. 30, 6:30 - 7:30 pm - Sharon PTO Pumpkin Parade at School
- Nov. 3 - Election Day - School in session as usual
- Nov. 5, Regular Sharon PTO Meeting - 6 pm (Virtual)
- Nov. 6, 9-10 am: Coffee/Tea with Principal Haley (Virtual)
- Nov. 10, 6 pm: Sharon Regular School Board Meeting (Virtual)
- Nov. 11: No School - Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Nov. 20: Half-Day, early release 12:15 pm
- Nov. 25 - 27: Thanksgiving Break, No School

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[www.sharonelementary.org](http://www.sharonelementary.org)

## Families and Community members,

It's wild to think that we are ending the month of October and heading into November next week! I continue to be grateful for all the players that have done their part to make school a success so far this year. As the weather gets cooler and we find our outdoor tents disappearing, it will make it even more important for us to be creative in terms of getting our students outside, as well as following the three top recommendations that helps keep viruses from spreading: frequent and thorough hand washing, social distancing, and wearing masks when social distancing is not possible. I have faith that we will all continue to keep one another safe by following these guidelines.

A lot is happening within the next few weeks: Please read the following updates about events happening in and around our school.

### Sharon Elementary PTO Halloween Pumpkin Parade:

The PTO is hosting a Pumpkin Parade at school on Friday, October 30th. Here are the details: Drop-off your carved pumpkin at school sometime on Friday. Return to school after 6:30 pm to see your pumpkin in the spectacular display! Please remain in your vehicle and wear a mask. Costumes are also encouraged! We will pass out a small treat from a distance on your way out. You may pick-up your pumpkin anytime on Saturday. All pumpkins remaining on Sunday will be collected and composted.

### Election Day

Next Tuesday is Election Day! As you know, Sharon Elementary is your town's polling place. The school and the town are working together to make sure that students can arrive at school safely, staff can conduct health screenings and both students and community members can keep social distancing guidelines in place. Please read the following to find out how parking and voting will take place:

1. The staff of Sharon Elementary will park their cars on the grass by the school gardens, freeing up the regular parking lot for voters.
2. Parents can drop their children off as they normally do. If parents want to vote at that time, they will have to pull around into the parking lot and then come in.



### *Coffee/Tea with Principal Haley*

On the first Friday of each month 9:00 - 10:00 am, join me for an informal meeting. This is NOT a time to discuss individual students, but mainly a time to ask questions about school or to suggest ideas. I will also have some items to address during this time, but mainly I want this to be time to check-in and have a relaxed conversation. I will send out a Google Meet for this event as it will have to be done virtually for now.

I know that the 9 am hour is not ideal and if there were not a time where we were dealing with COVID, I would typically offer this much earlier in the morning. But, I have to do quite a few things to get the school opened. I hope you will join me on Friday Nov. 6.

3. Voters will need to wear masks and socially distance while in line. Voters will enter the building through a designated entrance and leave through another.
4. Voters who need assistance will be allowed to enter the roundabout area to access the polling station.

Thank you for your support in advance of this day. As we all know, our normal way of doing things has been disrupted. Let's all make an effort to practice patience and kindness in our new way of doing things.

### Parent /Teacher Conferences

Your child's teacher should be reaching out to you to set up a parent/teacher conference. Most likely, it will be virtual. We have set aside November 11th for teachers to conduct the conferences, but we fully understand that this day may not work for everyone. The teachers will work with you to find the best time to meet. Please take advantage of these conferences. The teachers work hard to provide a narrative as to how your child is doing in school both academically and socially. By discussing this together, we can all work towards providing a successful educational experience for your child.

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Please reach out with any questions that you may have about this letter, or anything else concerning your child's education. And, if you are joining any Halloween festivities please follow safety guidelines and consider where you are going. New Hampshire towns are now in red and yellow zones, which means that non-essential travel restrictions apply. (Visit <https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/restart/cross-state-travel/> for more information.)

*Respectfully,*

*Keenan Haley  
Principal*

